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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/047,022	01/17/2002	Takeyoshi Ito	0879-0371P	5712

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EXAMINER
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GAGLIOSTRO, KEVIN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/047,022	ITO, TAKEYOSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Kevin M. Gagliostro	2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 1/19/2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10047022.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Title Objections*

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: "A Digital Camera With a Plurality of Functions Using an LED as an Indicating Device."

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for rejections under this section made in this office action:

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,214,516 to Okino.

Okino clearly shows all of the limitations cited in claim 1. See all material cited in the specification. Referring to claim 1, Okino describes a digital camera (figure 1 and column 2, lines 22-29), which has a first function of self-timer image-capturing function (or a self-mode setting switch 16 and a recording time setting self-timer switch 15) (column 2, lines 47-50) and a second function (for charging the battery) (column 4, lines 37-41 and 56-60) that is, in fact, different from the first function. Okino further describes an indicating device (or LED 5) (figure 5A, item 5), which is arranged on the front of the digital camera (column 4, lines 9-12) and indicates a situation in self-timer image-capturing by blinking (or flashing) (column 4, lines 24-31). Okino further describes the same indicator (or LED 5) for indicating an operation situation of the second function (battery charging) (column 4, lines 37-38).

Okino clearly shows all of the limitations cited in claim 2. See all material cited in the specification. Referring to claim 2, Okino describes the digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the indicating device indicates the operation situation of the second function by one of blinking (or flashing) (column 4, lines 24-31).

Okino clearly shows all of the limitations cited in claim 3. See all material cited in the specification. Referring to claim 3, Okino describes the digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the second function is one of a battery charging function (column 4, lines 37-41 and 56-60).

Okino clearly shows all of the limitations cited in claim 4. See all material cited in the specification. Referring to claim 4, Okino describes the digital camera according to claim 3, wherein the indicating device indicates the operation situation of the second function by one of blinking (or flashing) (column 4, lines 24-31).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 103 that form the basis for rejections under this section made in this office action:

(c) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.

5. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(c) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,214,516 to Okino et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001 to Berstis.

Regarding claim 5, Okino describes a digital camera (Okino: figure 1 and column 2, lines 22-29) that has a self-timer image-capturing function (or a self-mode setting switch 16 and a recording time setting self-timer switch 15) (Okino: column 2, lines 47-50). Okino further describes a digital camera that comprises a first indicating device (or LED 5) (Okino: figure 5A, item 5) which is arranged on a front of the digital camera (Okino: column 4, lines 9-12) and indicates a situation in self-timer image-capturing by blinking (or flashing) (Okino: column 4, lines 24-31). Okino does not teach a digital camera that is mounted to a cradle wherein the cradle has a terminal to communicate with an external device for carrying out two-way communication and a power output terminal to output a direct voltage source. Also, Okino does not teach the digital camera carrying out two-way communication with the external device via the cradle and a charging function of charging a battery in the digital camera by the direct voltage source input from the power output terminal of the cradle. Furthermore, Okino does not teach the digital camera wherein the first indicating device indicates a charging situation by the charging function. Berstis describes a digital camera that is mounted to a cradle (Berstis: figure 1, item 104 & 106 and column 2, lines 16-18) wherein the cradle has a terminal (or data connector) (Berstis: figure 1, item 110) used to communicate with an external device (i.e. personal computer) carrying out two-way communication (Berstis: column 2, lines 25-36). Berstis also describes a power output terminal (or power connector) (Berstis: figure 1, item 108) to output a direct voltage source (Berstis: column 2, lines 22-23) when the camera is mounted to the cradle. Berstis further describes a charging function that charges a battery in the digital camera by the direct voltage source input from the power output terminal of the cradle (Berstis: column 2, lines 25-36). Note that while using this charging function it is commonly known within the art that when a digital camera's battery is being recharged (via external power source) the camera is usually powered down as to speed up the charging process).

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Okino describes the function indicator (LED 5) as being located in the front of the camera (Okino: column 4, lines 9-12), which is similar to the first indicating device. Okino further describes a battery charging function for charging the battery wherein the indicator (LED 5) is also functionally associated with the charging as a means of display for checking the battery (Okino: figure 2B and column 4, lines 37-41 & 56-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the digital camera of Okino to include a mounting cradle wherein the cradle has a terminal to communicate with an external device for carrying out two-way communication and a power output terminal to output a direct voltage source. It would have been obvious to include a charging function of charging a battery in the digital camera by the direct voltage source input from the power output terminal of the cradle and an indicating device that indicates a charging situation by the charging function. One would have been motivated to combine the digital camera of Okino to include the mounting cradle consisting of two-way communication and battery charging capabilities of Berstis and the indicating device for the charging function of Okino in that it is convenient for the user to manage multiple functions upon mounting the camera to the cradle (Berstis: column 2, lines 36-39).

Regarding claim 6, Okino in view of Berstis describes the digital camera according to claim 5, where Berstis describes a digital camera that can be mounted to a cradle (figure 1, item 104 & 106 and column 2, lines 16-18) wherein the cradle is used to recharge the battery (Berstis: column 3, lines 12-14) via connector 119. Okino describes an indicating device (or LED 5) (Okino: figure 1, item 5), which is arranged on the front of the digital camera (Okino: column 4, lines 9-12) and indicates the charging function (Okino: column 4, lines 37-38). Therefore this indicating device would comprise that of the first indicating device. Note that combining the functionality of the two (cradle of Berstis and first indicator of Okino) for when the camera is mounted to the cradle, is commonly known within the art as it is necessary to have a visual means for indicating that battery charging is taking place and/or has been completed. Also, Okino describes that the indicating device (or LED 5), mentioned previously, may also be located on the rear of the camera (Okino: column 4, lines 9-12), thus comprising that of the second indicating device. Since the indicating device of Okino (LED 5) has been described as simultaneously being used as an indicator for multiple functions (Okino, column 4, lines 15-20), then it is also apparent that this indicating device may also simultaneously be used to indicate either the first and/or the second indicating device situated on either the front or the rear of the camera (Okino: column 4, lines 9-12). Further note that the second indicating device of Okino (LED 5) can, in fact, display the battery state while it is not mounted to a cradle (Okino: column 4, lines 39-41).

Regarding claim 7, Okino in view of Berstis describes the digital camera according to claim 5, wherein the data communicating with the external device is indicated by the first indicating device when the power of the digital camera is on. Berstis describes the digital camera wherein the data communicating with the external device (or

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personal computer) (Berstis: column 2, lines 25-36) when the power of the digital camera is on (or powered by an external power supply) (Berstis: column 3, lines 9-17). Since the indicating device of Okino (LED 5) has been described as being used as an indicator for multiple functions (Okino, column 4, lines 15-20) and located on either the front or the rear of the camera (Okino: column 4, lines 9-12), then it is also apparent that this indicating device may also be used as the first indicator when data is being communicated with an external device.

### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin M. Gagliostro whose telephone number is 703-308-6070. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Christensen can be reached on 703-308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kevin Gagliostro

01/10/2005



NGOC-YEN YU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER